

Application of Dowd Water Systems Inc
for Approval of Tap Fees from new Water Customers
in Stephenson Lakes Subdivision

Docket No: 2002-207-W

TESTIMONY OF JOHNNY T. JOHNSON

IN RE

STEPHENSON LAKES SUBDIVISION

FOR

DOWD WATER SYSTEMS, INC

PLEASE STATE FOR THE RECORD YOUR NAME, BUSINESS ADDRESS AND CONNECTION TO THE APPLICANT:

My name is Johnny T. Johnson, my business address is LETTS, INC, 1343 Garner Lane, Suite 200, Columbia SC 29210. I have been retained by Sue Dowd, president of Dowd Water Systems Inc to perform engineering services related to interconnection of the community water system in Stephenson Lakes Subdivision with the Chapin/Amicks Ferry Water System at Caro Lane, which transports water from the City of Columbia Water Works.

PLEASE STATE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Carolina in 1967.

PLEASE STATE YOUR PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS AND EXPERIENCE:

I obtained my Professional Engineering License in 1972, and currently hold P.E. Licenses in the States of SC, NC and GA. I am a licensed contractor, certified to construct water and sewer infrastructure and treatment plants in SC. I have engineered and constructed all major sewer mains around Lake Murray, including Timberlake on the north shore, and along Hwy 378 on the south shore.

In a thirty year span, I have built treatment plants known as Rawls Creek (Friarsgate), Lakewood, Broad River (Richland County), I-20 at 378, and upgraded over 20 other plants. I am currently the contract engineer for the Town of Chapin water and sewer systems.

I have testified before the Public Service Commission at least 12 times since 1976. I have owned a utility company. I have performed studies of several utility companies, most recently the Town of Elore, SC.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?

The purpose of my testimony is to substantiate the application of Dowd Water Systems Inc for approval of a Water Tap Fee to be charged to new customers in Stephenson Lakes Subdivision, to recoup various costs associated with the system.

PLEASE EXPLAIN THE VARIOUS COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH CONNECTION OF NEW WATER CUSTOMERS IN STEPHENSON LAKES.

I refer you to the revised Application, which deleted three items from the original Application: \$5.00 new customer account set-up fee, \$20.00 sampling fee, and \$100.00 legal fees. The remaining items are cost of materials \$200.00, cost of meter \$50.00, contract labor and equipment for installation \$225.00, and contract inspection services \$25.00, for a total average cost of \$500.00 per unit.

WHAT WILL BE THE TOTAL COST OF CONNECTION TO DOWD WATER SYSTEM FOR NEW CUSTOMERS?

If the Commission approves the \$500.00 Tap Fee, the total cost will be \$1400.00, which will include the \$900.00 "Contribution in Aid of Construction Fee" which was approved by the Commission on September 13, 2002 (Order #2002-658).

HOW DOES THIS TOTAL COST COMPARE TO THE COST TO RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS WHO CONNECT DIRECTLY TO THE TOWN OF CHAPIN WATER SYSTEM ON CARO LANE?

The existing Water Tap Fee charged by the Town of Chapin pursuant to Ordinance is \$1800.00.

I respectfully reserve the right to supplement my testimony as required to respond to questions from the Commission or intervenors.